

## Mayor's Message

December 2010

We have just celebrated my favorite holiday of the year. I love Thanksgiving Day. There is nothing better than spending time with family and friends, eating great food and reflecting on the important things in life. This year I am especially grateful for the opportunity to serve you. We live in a wonderful City. I love how you work to help create such a sense of community. I appreciate the employees of the City who willingly go the extra mile to make life better. Recently, one of our snowplow drivers noticed an elderly resident struggling with the snow in his driveway approach, and while it is not possible in every situation, he stopped to help him clear it away.

While the difficult financial picture has left us all with challenges, on the bright side, it opens the door for us to provide gifts of service to those around us. Helping a neighbor with vehicle problems, picking up groceries for someone who is home bound or just putting the newspaper on the porch for easier access are little things that can be very meaningful to those we live around. One of my neighbors brings the trash cans in for various people on the street. Another one is mindful when people are out of town, so when it snows he makes sure to clear their sidewalk, too. Sometimes a phone call or email can make someone's day when they know they have friends thinking of them. Even without spending money, we can make life better for our family, friends and neighbors. I appreciate your good examples.

As we enter the Christmas season, it is my hope that we will continue to serve in a spirit of community and gratitude. I wish you a wonderful, happy holiday season.